

General Information

Pond Creek National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1994, is located along the Little and Cossatot Rivers in Southwest Arkansas. Public hunting and fishing is permitted on approximately 27,000 acres during specific times of the year. Special arrangements can be made to accommodate persons with bona fide disabilities by contacting the refuge office.

Individuals utilizing the refuge are subject to inspections of permits, licenses, hunting equipment, bag limits, boats, vehicles, and their contents by refuge or state officers.

To ensure your safety and enjoyment while visiting Pond Creek, please take the time to become familiar with the following regulations.

General Refuge Regulations

The regulations below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State regulations subject to the following conditions.

**Permits are required for all hunts.** When signed and in your possession, the general hunt permit on the front of this brochure serves as your permit for all refuge hunts. The permit must be carried on the hunter's person and is not valid until signed. **Permits are not required for sport fishing, frogging or taking of turtles and crawfish for personal use.**

Weapons

Firearms and archery tackle are permitted only during designated hunts.

All weapons within 100 yards of a campground must be unloaded. All weapons transported in any land vehicle or boat under power must be unloaded and encased or dismantled (loaded is defined as shells in gun or cap on muzzleloader). Archery tackle and

Ammunition

crossbows must be uncocked with arrow unknocked from string. Only .22 caliber rimfire rifles and shotguns are permitted during refuge hunts. Exception: During muzzleloader deer hunts, muzzleloaders are also permitted.

Possession of shot larger than that legal for waterfowl hunting is prohibited; use or possession of lead shot is prohibited refuge wide.

*Exception:* During the deer muzzleloader hunts, lead ammunition legal for taking deer may be used.

Small game, furbearers, feral hogs, beaver, nutria and coyotes may be hunted with .22 caliber rimfire lead ammunition during open season.

Motorized Vehicles

All motor vehicles are restricted to roads that are delineated on refuge map.

*Exception:* Standard manufacturer's high flotation all-terrain vehicles or ATV's (3, 4-wheelers and "Hustlers") are permitted only on trails designated by ATV signs and marked with yellow or blue paint. Blue painted trails are open year round. Yellow painted trails are open from September 29, 2001- January 31, 2002.

ATV's are allowed only for wildlife dependent activities. ATV's are not allowed on any improved roads open to conventional vehicles. ATV's may be used on unimproved roads (see map). The maximum legal speed for any land vehicle is 35 mph.

Pond Creek  
National Wildlife Refuge  
P.O. Box 1157  
Crossett, AR 71635  
870/364 3167  
R4RW\_Pond Creek@.FWS.GOV  
  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1 800/344 WILD  
http://www.fws.gov

May 2001



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Pond Creek

National Wildlife Refuge  
Hunting Regulations  
2001-2002



Pond Creek General Hunt Permit 2001-2002

I have read and understand these refuge regulations.

Signature of Hunter

This permit is valid only when signed above by the hunter and must be carried on hunter's person.

(Cut out if desired.)

New regulations highlighted by

**Animals/ Pets** Dogs are allowed for hunting migratory birds, quail, squirrel, rabbit and raccoons during designated seasons only. Other dogs and pets must be confined or on a leash. Horses are prohibited during the muzzleloader deer hunts. At other times they may be used on roads and trails delineated on refuge map, as open to public use to reach areas open to hunting or fishing. Firearms transported on horses must be unloaded and encased.

**Camping** Camping is permitted only in designated primitive camping areas and in conjunction with on-refuge wildlife-oriented activities. Camping area entrances are marked by signs and boundaries are marked with orange paint. Campers may stay no more than 14 days during any 30 consecutive-day period in any campground. Camps must be occupied daily. All disturbances, including the use of generators, are prohibited after 10 pm. Camping on the refuge while hunting off the refuge is not permitted.

**Commercial Activities** No person, including but not limited to a guide, guide service, outfitter, club or other organization shall provide assistance, services, or equipment to any other person for compensation on National Wildlife Refuge lands unless such person, guide, guide service, outfitter, club or other organization has obtained a Commercial Use Permit from the National Wildlife Refuge. For the purposes of this regulation, any fees paid to a person for lodging, meals, club membership or similar services will be considered compensation.

A refuge Commercial Use Permit is also required for all other commercial activities on the refuge including but not limited to commercial fishing, trapping, filming, photography, collecting plants or parts of plants, acorns or mussels.

**Fires** Permitted only in camping areas and must be attended. Only downed wood may be used for fires.

**Caution: During periods of high fire danger, all fires may be prohibited.**

**Prohibited Activities**

Littering

Spotlighting-artificial light may not be used to locate wildlife.

Baiting or hunting over bait, salt or any attractant.

Hunting within 150 feet of roads and trails open to motor vehicle use (including ATV trails).

Target practice

Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited. Consumption of alcohol in plain view in campgrounds is also prohibited. Consumption of alcohol on roadways and in parking areas is prohibited.

Taking of wildlife or plants (including cutting trees or brush) other than specified in the brochure.

No person shall utilize the services of a guide, guide service, outfitter, club, organization or other person who provides equipment, services or assistance on National Wildlife Refuge lands for compensation unless the guide, guide service, outfitter, club, organization or person has obtained a Commercial Use Permit from the National Wildlife Refuge. Failure to comply with this provision subjects each hunter in the party to a fine if convicted of this violation. It is your responsibility to verify that the guide, guide service, etc. has obtained the required permit.

Drive or screw a nail, spike or other metal object into a tree or to hunt from any tree in which such an object has been driven.

Marking trails with tape, ribbon or paint. Use of biodegradable materials permitted.

Searching for or removing any object of antiquity including arrowheads, pottery or other artifacts.

Blocking gates or roadways with vehicles.

2001-2002 Season Dates For all deer harvested on the refuge, the hunter will immediately (prior to moving the animal) complete hunting license tag using 532 as zone of kill. Also use 532 as zone of kill at check station (Central Store serves as a state check station).		
Type	Season Dates	Specific Regulations
Duck, Goose, and Coot	State Duck Season	Hunting ends at noon each day. Only portable blinds are permitted. Blinds, boats and decoys must be removed each day, either to a designated area or from the refuge.
Woodcock	State Season	
Quail	11/1/2001-1/31/2002	
Squirrel and Rabbit	10/6/2001-1/31/2002 (Spring season closed)	Dogs allowed 12/1/2001-1/31/2002
Racoon and Opossum	11/17/2001-1/31/2002	Dogs allowed during hours of darkness only.
Deer (archery/ crossbow) (Zone 532)	10/1/2001-1/31/2002	State bag limit applies. Three point rule does not apply.
Deer (muzzleloader) (Zone 532)	State Season for Deer Management Zone 14	Archery and Crossbow permitted; <b>bag limit 2 either sex deer except only one of these can be a legal buck.</b> Three point rule does not apply.
Deer (gun)	Closed	
Turkey	Closed	
Trapping	11/17/2001-1/31/2002	Special refuge permit required and available at refuge office.
Beaver, Nutria, Coyote, and Feral Hog	Any refuge hunt	May be taken without the use of dogs during any daytime refuge hunt with weapons legal for that hunt. No bag limits. Live hogs may not be transported.

**Specific Hunting Regulations**  
State bag limits, season lengths and weapon regulations apply unless otherwise specified in this brochure.

A legal buck on all refuge hunts is defined as a deer having a minimum of a two inch hardened antler.

Any hunter under 16 years of age must possess proof of completion of an approved Hunter Safety Course and be accompanied (in sight and in normal voice contact) at all times by an adult 21 or older. Each adult can supervise only **one** youth during big game hunts and no more than two youths during all other hunts.

Only portable deer stands may be used. Stands may be erected two days before each hunt and must be removed within two days after each hunt.

**Sportfishing and Frogging Regulations**  
Sportfishing, frogging and taking of turtles and crawfish for personal use are permitted in all refuge waters in accordance with State regulations. Trotlines must be secured with cotton line which extends into the water.

**Need Additional Information?**  
For more copies of this leaflet or other specific information, contact the refuge.

Pond Creek NWR  
P.O. Box 1157  
Crossett, AR 71635  
870/364 3167  
Office Hours: Monday-Friday  
7:00 am - 3:30 pm  
or  
Felsenthal NWR  
P.O. Box 1157  
Crossett, AR 71635  
870/364 3167  
Office hours: Monday-Friday  
7:00 am - 3:30 pm